

APPLICANT(S): THOMSEN, Ruth et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/586,472

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 6, 7 and 10.

Please cancel claims 8 and 9.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A device for carrying out the minimally invasive withdrawal of blood from an animal by using blood-sucking assassin bugs, the device comprising:

a first receptacle comprising a perforated outside wall, and within which an assassin bug ~~is~~ may be positioned such that the assassin bug is able to suck blood from the animal, the receptacle comprising a movable partition ~~to hold~~ capable of holding the assassin bug in place against a location on the perforated outside wall, such that blood can be removed from the abdomen of the assassin bug using an injection syringe, and

a second receptacle connected to the receptacle, wherein the at least partially perforated outside wall of the receptacle forms a common separating wall between the receptacle and the second receptacle, wherein an assassin bug may be located in the receptacle and the animal may be held against the perforated common separating wall in the second receptacle by a movable disk, so that the assassin bug can be positioned against the animal and can withdraw blood from the animal, and, once the blood has been withdrawn, the assassin bug can be held in place against a second perforated outside wall by the movable partition.

7. (Currently Amended) Device A device according to Claim 6, wherein the first receptacle is a hollow cylinder ~~and the perforated outside wall is formed by one end surface of the receptacle~~, and wherein the receptacle comprises a piston rod on the opposite end surface on which the movable partition is arranged.

8-9. (Canceled)

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10. (Currently Amended) Device A device according to Claim 6, wherein the first receptacle is deformable and comprises a mesh-like fabric structure, by which the assassin bug can be positioned against the animal through the use of a flexible holding device.